

PADIMA

Policies Against Depopulation in Mountain Areas

Exchange of best practices in
the field of training and
education between
7 European mountain areas
First results

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Supported by:



PADIMA partnership



Map: Interreg IV C Joint Technical Secretariat

Policies against
depopulation in
mountain areas

PADIMA objectives



- To improve conception and efficiency of the Regional Policies against depopulation
- Through the exchange and innovative transfer of good practices aiming at maintaining and increasing population in mountain areas.
- Target goal:
 - increase population in mountain areas
 - foster sustainable development.

3 inter-related action lines



- Policies for improvement of **education and training**
- Policies for **diversification of local economies and employment**
- Policies of **Territorial marketing** to improve the image of these areas and attract new populations

An integrated approach



- The project's aim is to improve delivery of these policies and coordination between them in an integrated approach looking at:
 - Inter-relations between action lines
 - Synergies
 - Conflicting effects

Policies for improvement of education and training



- Methodological approach:
 1. A statistical approach to show similarities between the partners
 2. A survey to young people, leaders in municipalities and businesses to discover the needs for education and training
 3. Interviews with key personnel to find examples of “best practise”
 4. Each partners examples of “best practises”

Policies for improvement of education and training



- Best practise:
 - We have received around 25 suggestions for best practises
 - They cover a wide range of projects:
 - distance learning
 - high school studies
 - specialized courses

Policies for improvement of education and training



- First insights:
 - a quick study of the cases we find that most of the projects can be adopted by the other partners
 - a closer examination needed before any recommendations can be given
- Target:
 - around 7 suggestions for changing policies.

Education and training

First results



- The level of education vary a lot between the different partners.
- A common characteristic is that the level is lower in the mountain areas than in the low land. It is also lower than the average of the countries
- Young people in the mountains have higher education than the old ones, but still below the average of the country
- Distance to upper secondary schools/ universities seems to have small influence on the education level.

Education and training

First results



- Very few high schools/universities located in the mountain areas.
- Very few companies demanding employers with higher education located in mountain areas.
- Few jobs for workers with higher education

Education and training

Best practice example

- Buskerud mountain
 - largest tourism region in Norway
 - a lot of jobs related to tourism
 - despite that people are moving out of the region.



Education and training

Best practice example



- Service minded and vice - host study
- Knowledge and host study for people in connection with tourists.
- Goals:
 - to keep, and raise, the quality of the visitors experience with the municipality.
 - that everyone working in the municipality shall finish the study.
 - make the season-employed workers settle in the municipality.

Education and training

Best practice example



- Results:

- 450 persons have finished the study through 4 years.
- Hemsedal is now the only municipality in the region with growth similar to the average of the nation in population, and with a lot of young people.

Education and training

Best practice example

Massif Central

- Covers 15% of the French national territory
- 3.7 million Inhabitants
- 6 regions - 22 departments



Education and training

Best practice example



- Technical and languages distance training
- Allows everyone to have access to training
- The method and the teachings' substance are adapted to each student and to the needs of the companies.
- The goal is to adapt training to each particular trainee.
- A leading product for the future, but a complementary approach, which does not necessary lead to cutting costs. Creating training tools can be expensive.

Education and training

Best practice example



Province of Turin

- Mountain area known from the 2006 Winter Olympics
- Great differences between the low land and the mountains. Even great differences within the mountain area.



Education and training

Best practice example



Environmental issue addressed to people coming from different contexts

- Environmental sustainability
- Educative model based on social theory
- Objective: To train teachers in a specific mountain context that favour the dialogue and the comparison with the students
- The process of integration is developed in interaction with other institutional policies.

Education and training

Best practice example

Results

- 7836 students per year, served by 50 persons
- The added value is referred to:
 - The possibility to maintain work places in the valley, also with high level skills.
 - Re-use of the important building heritage of Pra Catinat.
 - network with other local important nodes.

Perspectives



- A lot of work has been done:
 - sampling data, conducting surveys and finding examples of Best practices.
- Buskerud County Authority will analyse the data and compare surveys from the different regions.
- A new report will be given in Turin **23-26 November 2010**
- A final report will be ready in **the end of March 2011**

Thank you!



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